

House Republican Press Release

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Rep. Bacchiochi: 52nd District Towns to Get Additional Education Funding from Surplus



Somers, Stafford and Union will receive additional education funding during the next two fiscal years under legislation (House Bill 6989) supported by state Representative Penny Bacchiochi, R-52nd District, which has received final legislative approval by the Connecticut General Assembly.

The funding, which will be distributed to the towns during the 2005-06 and 2006-07 fiscal years from this year's \$700 million state surplus, is in addition to the annual Education Cost Sharing grants each town receives from the state, Representative Bacchiochi said.

"As municipal education costs have continued to increase significantly over the past few years, local elected officials have become more and more vocal in demanding additional education aid from the state," Representative Bacchiochi said. "On June 8th, the state House of Representatives responded to that outcry by granting final legislative approval to a bill that will give Connecticut's towns some measure of relief."

"This funding is in addition to the Education Cost Sharing grants our towns receive every year – which also are being increased for the 2005 – 06 fiscal year. While I had hoped Somers, Stafford and Union would receive larger supplemental education grants from this year's budget surplus, every extra dollar we receive from the state will help ease the pressure on our overburdened local property taxpayers," Representative Bacchiochi said.

For the fiscal year beginning July 1st, Somers' Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant is expected to amount to \$4,814,820. The town will receive an additional \$98,721 under the legislation approved June 8th, increasing its ECS grant for the 2005-06 fiscal year to \$4,913,541. Somers will receive additional education funding from the surplus in the amount of \$126,363 for the 2006-07 fiscal year.

Stafford's ECS grant for the 2005-2006 fiscal year is expected to total \$8,596,798. Stafford will receive an additional \$83,464, increasing its ECS funding to \$8,680,262. For the 2006-07 fiscal year, Stafford will receive \$106,834 in additional education funding from the surplus.

Union's ECS grant for the 2005-06 fiscal year is expected to amount to \$201,842. The town will receive an additional \$1,960 from the surplus, increasing its ECS grant to \$203,802. For the 2006-2007 fiscal year, Union will receive \$2,508 in additional education funding from the surplus.